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Letter dated 21 June 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to submit herewith the statement of the sixth summit of the Heads of State and Government of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region, held in Luanda on 14 June 2016 (see annex). I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Albert **Shingiro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 21 June 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Declaration

Sixth Ordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

Topic:
Accelerating the effective implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region and its Protocols for a more democratic and stable Great Lakes Region

Luanda, Angola
14 June 2016

Preamble

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of Angola and current President of the (ICGLR), H.E. Mr. José Eduardo dos Santos, we, the Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, meeting in Luanda on 14 June 2016 to review the political and security situation in the Region, together with the President of the Republic of South Africa, H.E. Mr. Jacob G. Zuma, special guest of President Dos Santos,

Having considered the recommendations of the meeting of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee held at Luanda on 11 February 2016, and which addressed issues concerning the Organization and the political and security situation in the Region, along with the recommendations of the Ordinary Meeting of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee held at Luanda on 12 June 2016 in preparation for the Summit;

Having considered the recommendations of the meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Defense held at Luanda on 11 June 2016 to discuss the prevailing security situation in the Region;

Having considered the recommendations of the meeting of the ICGLR Ministers of Justice, convened at Livingstone, Zambia on 25 and 26 August 2015, which addressed the implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region and expediting the incorporation of the four priority Protocols of the ICGLR into their domestic legislation;

Having considered the report of the meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the countries that are signatories to the Framework Agreement on Peace, Security and Cooperation for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region, held at Addis Ababa on 28 January 2016;

Having reviewed the final report of the Great Lakes Regional Conference on Private-Sector Investment, held on 24 and 25 February 2016 at Kinshasa;

Reiterating the primary responsibility of the ICGLR to find a lasting solution to the problems of peace and security in the Region;

Reaffirming our firm commitment to the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region and its Protocols;

HAVE DECIDED:

With regard to the institutional concerns of the organization:

1. To **urge** all member States of the ICGLR to honour their financial obligations to ICGLR institutions promptly and consistently, so as to enable those institutions to fulfil their mandates with regard to the implementation of the ICGLR Pact and its Protocols;

2. To **commend** outgoing Executive Secretary Professor Ntumba Luaba, for the good and loyal services he rendered to the organization during his term, and to wish him much success in his future endeavours;

With regard to the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism:

3. To **urge** the member States to honour their financial obligations to the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (EJVM) and the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre (JIFC) at the earliest opportunity, at the latest 45 days after the date of conclusion of the present meeting;

4. To **recommend** that member States facilitate the issuance of official travel documents to their experts on secondment to the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism, so as to allow them greater freedom of movement during their verification missions;

5. To **direct** the Ministers of Defense and of Security of the member States to exchange information with the EJVM and the JIFC on activities linked to negative forces, so as to enable the organization to map out a strategy for combating the terrorist threat in the Region;

6. To **urge** member States that have yet to send experts to the EJVM to do so at the earliest opportunity;

7. To **direct** the EJVM to undertake the verification of the identities and intentions of the alleged Burundian nationals arrested and detained in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and to compile a consensual report within 60 days;

8. To **direct** the EJVM to verify the incident that occurred on Lake Albert that resulted in the deaths of three Ugandan police officers, and to report within 60 days;

With regard to the Republic of Burundi:

9. To **welcome** the resumption of the Inter-Burundi dialogue under the leadership of the East African Community, and to encourage the Government of Burundi and the opposition parties to commit to that dialogue;

10. To **recommend** that Burundi and Rwanda engage in an open and frank dialogue, aware as we are of the willingness expressed by the two brother countries to resolve all potential differences through diplomatic channels, and the current

President of the ICGLR having expressed his willingness to provide support for such efforts should the two countries express their desire for him to do so;

11. To **recommend** that the Facilitator of the Inter-Burundi dialogue, H.E. Mr. Benjamin Mkapa, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, be invited to future Ordinary Meetings of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee to brief member States on the progress of the dialogue;

12. To **urge** the international community to extend much-needed financial assistance to the Government of Burundi and humanitarian assistance to Burundian refugees, and to all those who have been displaced as a result of the crisis;

With regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

13. To **commend** the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the efforts towards the neutralization of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (DFLR) and other local negative forces, and recommend further support to the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) such that they continue working together to neutralise all negative forces;

14. To **welcome** and pledge to support the agreement of the Heads of State of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Uganda, the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania to formulate a joint follow-up mechanism to address the growing menace of the radical terrorist Allied Democratic Forces group;

15. To **welcome** the signing of the new technical agreement between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and MONUSCO, and encourage continued joint military operations against all negative forces in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo as recommended by the Summit of ICGLR Heads of State and Government on 18 May 2015;

16. To **welcome** the report of the Mission of the Guarantors of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework Agreement for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region and, with regard to the implementation of Nairobi Declaration, recommend continued and sustained engagement with the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the ex-combatants of the March 23 Movement to implement the decisions agreed upon at Kinshasa on 27 May 2016;

17. To **commend** the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for its preparations for a political dialogue aimed at creating a conducive climate for the next elections; and further urged all Congolese political actors to participate in that dialogue and provide full support for the work of the International Facilitator appointed by the African Union Commission;

18. To **urge** the United Nations Organization (UNO) and other concerned parties to expedite the repatriation to Rwanda of disarmed ex-combatants of the DFLR in the cantonment camps, or their resettlement to a third country outside the region;

With regard to the Central African Republic:

19. To **extend** our warmest congratulations to H.E President Faustin-Archange Touadéra on his election and on the speedy formation of the new Government of the Central African Republic;

20. To **direct** the Chair of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee to expedite the implementation of the previous ICGLR Summit decision on convening a joint ICGLR/Economic Community of Central African States summit to provide support to the new Government;

21. To **call on** the United Nations to lift the arms embargo on the Central African Republic, appeal to all ICGLR member States to support this call, and further to call on African States members of the United Nations Security Council to help advance this important cause;

22. To **appeal to** the international community to assist the new Government of the Central African Republic in dealing with the critical humanitarian situation as an important step to sustaining the gains achieved as a result of the successful conduct of the elections and the inauguration of the new government;

23. To **urge** member States to implement the resolutions of the Military Experts Assessment Mission to the Central African Republic;

24. To **call for** concerted efforts to neutralize the Lord's Resistance Army and the threat posed by this negative force in the Central African Republic and the Region;

With regard to the Republic of South Sudan:

25. To **welcome** the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity, and to urge the Region and the international community to maintain support for the government and the people of South Sudan for the sake of peace and stability in the country;

26. To **commend** the work of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Committee under former President of Botswana H.E. Mr. Festus Mogae, in facilitating the dialogue between stakeholders in South Sudan which had led to the successful formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity, and to appeal to all parties to maintain that spirit of compromise and reconciliation throughout the implementation of the accord;

27. To **urge** the international community to extend humanitarian assistance to the Government of South Sudan to facilitate the return of refugees and internally displaced people;

With regard to the Republic of the Sudan:

28. To **welcome** the improving bilateral relations between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan, and encourage the two countries to sustain this positive spirit for the sake of stability and development for both countries;

29. To **support** the efforts of the Republic of Sudan to lift the unilateral and coercive economic sanctions imposed on it by the United States of America, and to note with alarm the disproportionate and indiscriminate human cost of these measures on the Sudanese civilian population, in particular on women and children;

With regard to the implementation of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources:

30. To **urge** member States to expedite the provision of the financial and technical support necessary for the implementation of the six tools of the Regional Initiative

on Natural Resources, and to reiterate that the sustainability of the Initiative requires robust local and regional ownership;

31. To **commend** the International Partners, in particular the German Government and its agencies, the Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR), which have diligently continued to offer technical and financial support to the Regional Initiative since its inception;

32. To **urge** member States to take greater ownership of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources and its implementation in their respective countries and provide the necessary resources to ensure its success;

With regard to the report of the Ministers of Justice of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region:

33. To **direct** the ICGLR Ministers of Justice to implement the roadmap for the incorporation of the Protocols of the ICGLR into their domestic legislation, in accordance with the decision taken the Conference of the ICGLR Ministers of Justice held on 25 and 26 August 2015 at Livingston, Zambia;

34. To **direct** Ministers of Justice to implement measures to strengthen judicial cooperation in areas of extradition of fugitives and accused persons, and the mutual assistance with regard to trial judgements;

35. To **urge** member States to promote mutual legal cooperation to combat transnational crimes, especially terrorism, in the Great Lakes Region;

With regard to the report of the Ministerial meeting of the Framework Agreement on Peace, Security and Cooperation for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region:

36. To **welcome and endorse** the conclusions of the Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers of the Signatory Countries of the Framework Agreement on Peace, Security and Cooperation for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region, held at Addis Ababa on 28th January 2016, under which future Regional Oversight Mechanism meetings must be held as standalone meetings within the Region and delinked from the African Union Summit and the United Nations General Assembly and held within the region;

37. To **encourage** the ICGLR member States to host future annual sessions of the Regional Oversight Mechanism;

38. To **express appreciation** to the Republic of Angola for its initiative of convening and chairing the Security Council open debate on the prevention and resolution of conflicts in the Great lakes Region, held on 21 March 2016, and for the launching of the Regional Strategic Framework;

With regard to the report of the 2016 Conference on Private-Sector Investment:

39. To **commend** the on-going cooperation among the ICGLR Secretariat, the Office of the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary General to the Great Lakes Region and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the successful convening of the first Regional Private-Sector Investment Conference at Kinshasa in February 2016, and to urge proactive measures towards effective

implementation of the recommendations of the Conference in order to maintain the momentum it has generated;

40. To **urge** the member States to provide more support and become more involved in the follow-up efforts designed to stimulate foreign direct investment in the Region through the present initiative and similar initiatives in the future;

41. To **appeal** urgently to all member States to draft, without delay, national action plans to combat youth unemployment in accordance with the decision taken at the Extraordinary Summit held at Nairobi in July 2014. This measure constitutes a crucial element in our collective efforts to ensure that development and economic growth benefit the majority of the vulnerable youth population, who constitute our most precious and promising human resources;

With regard to terrorism:

42. To **note** with great concern the growing threat of terrorism and radicalization at the regional and international levels, and to call for sustained solidarity in combating this threat in a vigorous and determined manner, including the implementation of the decision taken by the previous ICGLR Summit to establish a committee of ICGLR Ministers of Defense, Foreign Affairs and Security to draft a strategy of practical actions designed to confront this threat to the Region.

With regard to the appointment of the new Executive Secretary of ICGLR:

43. To **analyse** the recommendation of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee regarding the candidates for the post of ICGLR Executive Secretary, and to take the following decision:

> In accordance with article 23 of the ICGLR Pact, we approve the appointment of Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muita as the new Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region for a mandate of four years, beginning 14 June 2016.

The Summit takes this opportunity to congratulate the Governments and peoples of the Republic of Uganda, the Republic of the Congo and the United Republic of Tanzania on having organized peaceful, free and transparent general elections.

The Summit has accepted the offer of the Republic of Kenya to host the festivities marking the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in December 2016.

Finally, the Summit wishes to express its sincere gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Angola for the hospitality accorded to all the delegations, and for all the facilities placed at their disposal and which contributed to the success of the Summit.

Done at Luanda, Angola, on 14 June 2016

1. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Jose Eduardo **Dos Santos**
President of the Republic of Angola

2. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Pierre **Nkurunziza**
President of the Republic of Burundi

3. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Faustin-Archange **Touadéra**
President of the Central African Republic

4. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Denis Sassou **N'guesso**
President of the Republic of the Congo

5. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Joseph **Kabila Kabange**
President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

6. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Uhuru **Kenyatta**
President of the Republic of Kenya

7. H.E. Mr. Paul **Kagame**
President of the Republic of Rwanda

8. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Omar Hassan **al-Bashir**
President of the Republic of the Sudan

9. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Salva Kiir **Mayardit**
President of the Republic of South Sudan

10. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. John Pombe **Magufuli**
President of the United Republic of Tanzania

11. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Yoweri Kaguta **Museveni**
President of the Republic of Uganda

12. (*Signed*) H.E. Mr. Edgar **Lungu**
President of the Republic of Zambia